

English Abstract

I chose the topic of my thesis, „Protection of victims of crime“, because this issue is very topical in recent years, not only in terms of legislation, it is also an important topic that affects society. Unfortunately, crime is an integral part of society, and any one of us can become a victim of crime. Only when a person is affected by crime does he realize how important the protection of victims is. The Czech Republic is a country that does not forget to address this issue, and it comprehensively amended the rights of victims with Act no. 45/2013 Coll., On the Protection of Victims of Crime. Legislation on the protection of victims of crime is relatively new, and like many regulations that have no equivalent in the legal system, this law will also be subject to change and improvement over time. Although the victims' Act undoubtedly strengthened victims' rights and moved them to the next level, it has still been criticized for its considerable shortcomings. The prepared amendment to the Act on Victims of Crime, which incorporates the conformity of the given act with EU law and also seeks to incorporate knowledge in exercising victims' rights in practice, is trying to remove this problem at least in part.

In my thesis, I focused primarily on the protection of victims' rights, which are granted to them through the rights that the legal system of the Czech Republic guarantees. Since I tried to understand the issue of protecting the rights of victims of crime as comprehensively as possible, I also paid attention to the status of the victim of the crime as the injured party in the criminal proceedings, and his rights, which are governed by the Code of Criminal Procedure.

This thesis is divided into five main chapters, and each chapter is divided into subchapters. In the first and second chapters of this thesis I drew from sources of legislation on protection of victims of crime an international perspective, then from a historical perspective in the Czech Republic, or Czechoslovakia, and finally from the perspective of current legislation. The third chapter of this thesis deals with the concept of victims from the perspective of how the scientific discipline focused on victims of crime works with it, i.e. victimology, as well as how the legislation of the Czech Republic works with the concept of victims. In this chapter, I also focused on the concept of an injured party in criminal proceedings, and the mutual comparison of the concepts of victims and injured parties. The fourth chapter deals with a detailed analysis of individual rights of crime victims governed by the Act on the Protection of Victims of Crime and the Code of Criminal Procedure, which in

turn governs the rights of injured parties in criminal proceedings. The fifth and final chapter deals with restorative justice, which provides an alternative method of punishing offenders while ensuring a settlement of the conflict between the offender and the victim of the crime. In the conclusion of my thesis I provide a summary of the knowledge that I acquired in the writing of the thesis, and I assess the objectives set out by this thesis. The conclusion also includes my final opinion on the whole issue of protection of victims of crime.